

Russia Lifts Sanctions On Georgian Dairy Import

BY KHATIA BZHALAVA

Russian news agency RIA Novosti reported that Russia's Veterinary and Phytosanitary Supervision agency Rosselkhoznadzor has permitted 15 Georgian companies to supply milk and dairy products to Russia.

According to Julia Melano, adviser to the head of Rosselkhoznadzor, the decision was made after the negotiations between the Head of Rosselkhoznadzor Sergey Dankvert and the Head of the National Agency of Food of the Georgian Ministry of Agriculture, Zurab Chekurashvili.

According to the National Food Agency, active efforts have been made for many years to increase the export of Georgian agricultural products to the world markets. As they note, negotiations have been held with the Russian Federation from 2020 and as a result, a decision has been made to allow the export of Georgian products to the Russian Federation and other countries.

David Arakhamia, chairman of the Servant of the People faction in the



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Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has released a video address regarding the lifting of economic sanctions on Georgian milk and wine by Russia. He emphasized that when Georgia was attacked by Russia, Ukraine, without considering its economic loss, showed all the support to Georgia.

Arakhamia is asking Georgian people to clarify this issue with the government, noting that "we would not want to see such a betrayal from the Georgian people."

The decision to lift sanctions on Georgian dairy comes as large-scale international economic sanctions have been imposed on Russia over the invasion of Ukraine, ongoing since February 24. Per the decision of Georgia's Prime Minister Irakli Garibashvili, Georgia has not joined the sanctions, citing national interests and the possible damage to the Georgian economy.

Serious economic sanctions have been imposed on the Russian Federation over the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Photo: AFP.

Gender Equality and Diversity Month in Georgia

UNDP and Sweden are launching a month-long campaign to push for human rights, diversity, gender equality and women's empowerment

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Government of Sweden join hands with Georgia's Government, Parliament, civil society, UN agencies and other partners to stress the critical importance of upholding human rights, achieving meaningful gender equality and respecting diversity.

The month-long campaign will focus on recognising emerging challenges and presenting solutions for building a fair, just and equal society.

The events and initiatives include:

- Research launch: 'Gender Equality in Georgia: Barriers and Recommendations – 2021'.
- Conferences on gender equality and women's economic empowerment.
- The first enrolment to the Women Entrepreneurs' Development Programme, established in partnership with the Bank of Georgia.
- Presentation of "To Be a Woman", an educational board game about equality and diversity.

- Inter-party discussions at the local level to enhance women's political participation.
- Training sessions for women councillors, Mayors and Deputy Mayors.
- Signing the Memorandum of Understanding with the Labour Inspection Office. Launch of the Contact Center to raise labour rights awareness among vulnerable social groups, including women and girls.
- A community-based campaign highlighting the historic role Peri-Khan

Sofieva, the first Muslim woman democratically elected to Georgia's local governance in 1918 and allegedly the first Muslim woman to be elected formally anywhere in the world.

- Workshops in advocacy and political participation for women, including representatives of minority groups.
- Workshops for young leaders from across Georgia.

Follow the campaign on @UNDPGeorgia, hashtags: #breakthebias, #embracediversity

Turkish-Georgian Media Meeting, Istanbul – Ankara 23-27 February 2022

The media tour of Georgian journalists in Istanbul and Ankara was organized by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Turkey to Georgia H.E. Fatma Ceren Yazgan, the Global Journalism Council (GJC), its President Mehmet Ali Dim and the Yunus

Emre Enstitüsü. During these busy and emotional days, we had the opportunity to communicate closely with our Turkish colleagues in various formats and exchange thoughts, impressions, views, express our desire for future cooperation and keep in touch to

turn this effort and excellent introductory start into effective communication.

During various visits to various media outlets (TRT, Haber Global), Ministries (Turkish Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Deputy Minister of Culture and Tourism, Serdar Cam),

Associations (DEIK - Foreign Economic Relations Board; Turkey-Georgia Business Council Chairperson, Osman Caliskan-Mzhavanadze) and Embassy of Georgia to the Republic of Turkey (Ambassador H.E. Giorgi Janjgava). There was a special kindness and interest towards

Georgia and, most importantly, a great desire for the issues that exist between the two strategic partners and the neighboring country to be resolved on the basis of their best interests.

We offer a photo report from the trip:

Day 1, 2 - Istanbul



Weather

Monday, March 7

Day Partly Cloudy
High: 9°C
Night Partly Cloudy
Low: 0°C

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The Messenger preserves the style of a source written in English where possible.







Day 3, 4 - Ankara









Thank you dear colleagues and until soon!